LONG-BEAKED ARROW-HEAD Sagittaria australis

Located along springs and ponds in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and south.

This arrowhead has broad, oval-oblong leaves, 10 to 30 cm long, with basal lobes one-third to one-half the length of the blade. The flowering stalk is stout, 30 to 90 cm long (taller than leaves), 6-angled near the base; supporting 5 to 11 whorls of 3 flowers each (2 to 4 whorls producing fruit). White, 3-petaled flowers (separate male and female flowers) are located at the ends of short stems, those supporting the male flowers somewhat longer than for the female; blooming from July through September. Round fruiting capsules develop after the female flowers fade; 1 to 1.5 cm diameter. Name arises from the long, erect or curved "beak" on the seeds within the capsules.



See p. 23.00 for general value to wildlife. In addition, this species provides shade and shelter for young fish.



Notes: